

**Hunting will cease at 4:00pm each day.**

**McCormick's Creek State Park  
2013 DEER REDUCTION INFORMATION SHEET**

**Hunters: Please read and keep this document for reference. You are responsible for understanding all of the following information.**



**Important Note**

We appreciate your willingness to help manage the impact from deer browsing. For this reduction to be effective, please harvest any deer that presents a safe and ethical shot (within established bag limits), especially those that are antlerless. Please make every effort to be present during the reduction. The number of hunters allowed at each park is strategically calculated. Your absence affects how successfully we reach our objective of a balanced ecosystem.

**Congratulations!** You have been selected to participate in the deer reduction effort at McCormick's Creek State Park. The deer reductions will take place on November 18-19 and December 2-3, 2013. Be sure to know which hunt(s) you were drawn for. If you arrive on the wrong date you will not be allowed to participate in the reduction. Enclosed you will find valuable information pertaining to the reduction procedures, as well as a map of the property, including Safety Zones. **Please read and understand this packet of information thoroughly.**

**Date/Time:** The 2013 Deer Reduction hunts will be conducted on November 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The park will be closed to the public, except registered guest at the Canyon Inn, starting from 8 p.m. EST (7 p.m., CST) on the Sunday before each hunt period through 6 p.m. EST (5 p.m., CST) the Tuesday following each hunt period. Hunters will be allowed onto the property at 5:30am on the days of the Deer Reduction. In order to enter the park the day(s) of the reduction, hunters must show the gate attendant at the Main Gate a picture ID (driver's license or state ID card).

**Park Access:** All entrance to and exit from McCormick's Creek State Park will be via the Park's Main Gate, located off State Rd 46. All hunters will need to check-in and check-out when entering or leaving the property. There will be no park entrance fee during the reduction.

**Hunt Hours:** Hunters may enter the field no earlier than 5:30 a.m. Actual shooting hours are 7:30 a.m. EST (6:30 a.m. CST) until 4 p.m. EST (3 p.m. CST)

- Lodging:** Canyon Inn will offer rooms to qualified hunters during the reduction. For information on rates and available rooms please call (812) 829-4881. When making a reservation please notify the receptionist that you will be participating in the Deer Reduction.
- Safety Zones:** Safety Zones are marked on your map, as well as in the field. Safety Zones are marked with yellow flagging tape on trees along the boundaries. You may not enter these areas at any time unless you are retrieving a wounded or downed deer. **Do not shoot toward the safety zone markers if you are hunting near the boundaries.** Private residences are located within 100 yards of the safety zones.
- To retrieve a deer that has gone off property, you must contact the Property Personnel at the Main Gate or a Conservation Officer on the property. You will need to be escorted to the property to obtain permission to retrieve the deer.
- No weapons are allowed in the Safety Zones and hunters are not permitted to cut through them at any time.** Familiarize yourself with any of the markers in your area. If you have a wounded deer that has not expired enter a Safety Zone, and you need assistance retrieving it, contact property personnel at the Main Gate or a Conservation Officer on the property.
- General Safety:** **At all firearm hunts, a participant must expose outer garments with hunter orange, including both hat AND vest, coat, jacket or coveralls. This gear should be worn at all times. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages will be permitted on the property during the reduction period.**
- Firearms:** All firearms which may be legally used to hunt deer during the regular firearms season in Indiana, as defined in the 2013 Indiana Hunting and Trapping Regulations Guide will be permitted.
- Tree Stands:** NON-PENETRATING tree stands may be put up by those drawn for the hunt. Stands may be installed beginning October 31<sup>st</sup>. All stands must be removed on the last day of the reduction, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you intend to mark the area of your tree stand with a plastic ribbon, please make sure you collect that ribbon at the end of the hunt so you do not confuse later hunters and hikers in the park. As a general rule, please take out anything you bring into the park. Please practice “leave no trace” ethics to ensure a clean and high quality park.
- Safety Harnesses:** Safety harnesses are not required. However, we strongly recommend the use of a harness while hunting from a tree stand.
- Ground Blinds:** **Ground blinds are Not permitted.**
- Parking:** Park only in established parking lots. Do not park in front of any gated roadway or access road at any time.

**Your Harvest:** During each reduction period for which you have been drawn, you are allowed to take up to three deer, only one of which can be antlered (one antler greater than three inches). You must take all deer you harvest, and all deer must be checked-in and have a permanent tag affixed prior to leaving the property. The Deer Check Station will be located at the Property Service Area. Hunters staying at the Canyon Inn will be allowed to cache their harvest on the property. Please inquire at the Check Station for details.

These deer do not count against your regular state deer hunting license or bag limit.

All deer must be field dressed at the site of the kill, unless the kill is made on a trail, in a mowed area, or near a road way. In these instances, the deer must be dressed at least 50 ft. away from the road or trail. All entrails must be covered with leaf litter from that area. **Retrieval of all deer is the responsibility of the hunter.** If you require assistance retrieving a deer due to a medical condition or physical impairment, please notify park personnel of your need.

All harvested deer must be transported to the Check Station in order to have a permanent tag affixed and biological data collected. Deer Check Station Hours are 9:00am to 5:00pm.

All harvested deer will be inspected at the Main Gate upon your departure to ensure that a proper tag is affixed. All deer must be covered or in the bed of a truck or van for transport off the property.

Hunters are permitted to harvest **Deer Only**. No other animals may be taken during the reduction period.

**Substitutes:** No substitutions will be allowed. Only individuals whose names were originally submitted and drawn will be allowed to participate in the reduction. If you know you will be unable to attend the reduction please contact Asst. Manager, Brady Givens at (812) 829-2235.

**Accessibility:** If you have a medical condition or disability, you should contact the Park Office before November 14th so we can try to accommodate any special needs you may have.

**Non-hunters:** If you encounter non-hunters in the field, please contact property personnel immediately and they will handle the situation.

**General:** All IN DNR Property Rules and Indiana Hunting Regulations will be enforced. If you have further questions, please contact Asst. Manager, Brady Givens at (812) 829-2235

## **TAKING OF ANTLERED & ANTLERLESS DEER**

Please keep in mind the purpose of your deer hunting opportunity on State Park or Nature Preserve properties is to reduce the deer herd in order to prevent overgrazing and the resulting damage to the properties' vegetation.

Our primary goal is to take does since they have the largest long-term impact on a population. However, we recognize that antlered deer also directly contribute to the grazing impacts on the properties and appreciate your help with their removal. We are concerned that some hunters may be passing up antlerless deer and deer with small antlers. Those hunters who pass on opportunities to remove deer with no or small antlers are actually hurting our ability to reduce the overgrazing problem. Whenever you have an opportunity to safely make an accurate, well-placed shot, please help us by taking that deer, regardless of the antler size.

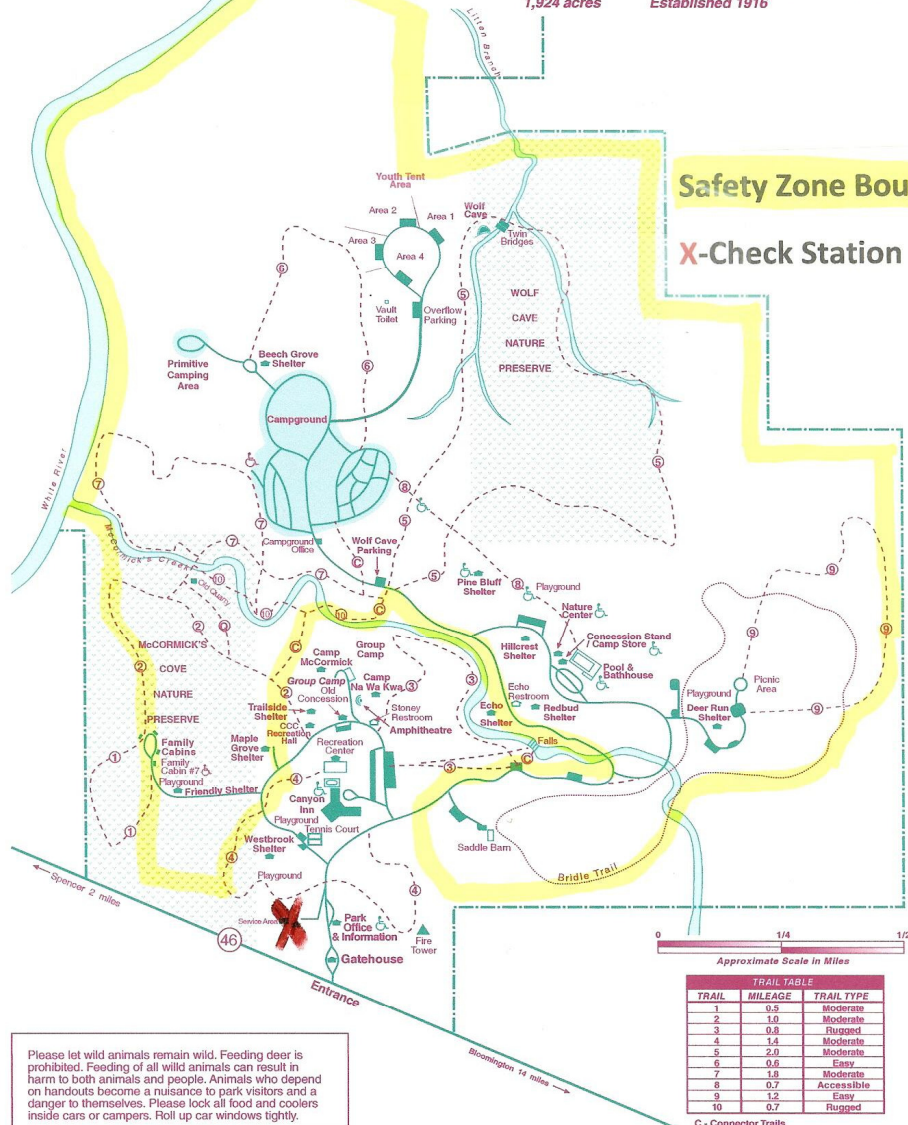
We may also have hunters passing up deer because they have filled their freezer. While we do not want deer to be taken that will be wasted, if you do not need the meat from the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> deer, please consider trying to locate someone prior to our deer reduction effort who needs additional deer meat.

We do not want to restrict your opportunity to take home a deer, including its antlers. However, we may be forced to do so in the future if today's hunters pass up deer that need to be removed.

**Thank you for your help in this important effort.**

# McCORMICK'S CREEK STATE PARK

250 McCormick's Creek Park Road • Spencer, IN 47460 • (812) 829-2235  
1,924 acres Established 1916



**Safety Zone Boundary**

**X-Check Station**

Approximate Scale in Miles  
0 1/4 1/2

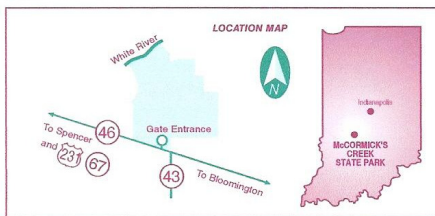
TRAIL	MILEAGE	TRAIL TYPE
1	0.5	Moderate
2	1.0	Moderate
3	0.8	Rugged
4	1.4	Moderate
5	2.0	Moderate
6	0.6	Easy
7	1.9	Moderate
8	0.7	Accessible
9	1.2	Easy
10	0.7	Rugged

C - Connector Trails  
Q - Quarry Loop

LEGEND	
Road	Boundary
Hiking Trail	Accessible
Horse Trail	Nature Preserve



Please let wild animals remain wild. Feeding deer is prohibited. Feeding of all wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to park visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.



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